



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 11 2014

THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

Thank you for your letter, dated January 27, 2014, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting that the agency finalize its proposal to waive the 2014 volume requirements under the Renewable Fuel Standard program.

On November 29, 2013, the EPA published in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule that would establish the 2014 RFS volume standards. In developing the proposed volumes, the agency used the most recent data available and took into consideration multiple factors. Our analysis included an evaluation of both the expected availability of qualifying renewable fuels as well as factors that, in some cases, limit supplying those fuels to the vehicles and equipment that can consume them. On the basis of our analysis, we proposed to reduce the required volumes from statutory levels for 2014 for cellulosic biofuel, advanced biofuel, and total renewable fuel. We proposed to maintain the same volume for biomass-based diesel for 2014 and 2015 as was adopted for 2013, but we have requested comment on whether to raise the biomass-based diesel volume requirement.

Concurrently, the EPA published a *Federal Register* notice acknowledging the receipt of petitions for a waiver of the renewable fuel standards that would apply in 2014. At the time, we stated that any additional similar requests would be considered together with the requests already received. The EPA anticipates issuing a waiver determination at the same time as issuing a final rule establishing the 2014 RFS standards. Accordingly, we have docketed your request and will take it into account as we, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Energy, work towards finalizing the 2014 RFS volume standards.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mark Rupp, Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations, at rupp.mark@epa.gov or (202) 564-7178.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy".

Gina McCarthy